

**OPINION 2213 (Case 3387)*****Cancer setosus* Fabricius, 1798 (currently *Pseudograpsus setosus*; Crustacea, Decapoda): replacement of a syntype by a neotype approved**

**Abstract.** The only known syntype of *Cancer setosus* Fabricius, 1798 (currently *Pseudograpsus setosus*) is extremely deteriorated. With this ruling it has been replaced with a neotype. *Cancer setosus* Fabricius, 1798 has been accepted by carcinologists as a senior subjective synonym of *Grapsus penicilliger* Latreille, 1817 and *Pseudograpsus barbatus* H. Milne Edwards, 1853 for 150 years, and as such, it is essential that a recognisable type be available to the scientific community.

**Keywords.** Nomenclature; taxonomy; *Pseudograpsus setosus*; *Grapsus penicilliger*; *Pseudograpsus barbatus*; neotype; brachyuran crab.

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**Ruling**

- (1) Under the plenary power it is hereby ruled that all type fixations for the nominal species *setosus* Fabricius, 1798, as published in the binomen *Cancer setosus*, are set aside and a male specimen collected from Ambon (RMNH-D-191) and housed in the Nationaal Natuurhistorisch Museum, Leiden is designated as the neotype.
- (2) The name *setosus* Fabricius, 1798, as published in the binomen *Cancer setosus* and as defined by the neotype designated in (1) above, is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.

**History of Case 3387**

An application was received from Ngan Kee Ng and Peter K.L. Ng (*National University of Singapore, Republic of Singapore*) on 28 April 2006 to replace the only known, extremely deteriorated syntype of *Cancer setosus* Fabricius, 1798 (currently *Pseudograpsus setosus*) with a neotype. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 64: 149–154 (September 2007). The title, abstract and keywords of the case were published on the Commission's website. No comments on this case were received.

**Decision of the Commission**

On 1 June 2008 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 64: 152. At the close of the voting period on 1 September 2008 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes – 16: Alonso-Zarazaga, Bogutskaya, Bouchet, Brothers, Fautin, Halliday, Kottelat, Krell, Kullander, Lamas, Lim, Pape, Papp, Rosenberg, van Tol and Zhang.

Negative vote – 1: Grygier.

Minelli, Ng, Patterson, Pyle and Štys were on leave of absence.

Grygier, voting against the proposals, said that the application presented no information documenting extensive use of *setosus*. The mere citation of Ng et al.

(2002) is inadequate for this purpose and in addition, fewer than ten total uses of the name are cited in that work. Furthermore, the proposed neotype is geographically too far removed from the type locality reported by Fabricius. It would perhaps have been better to propose conditional priority reversal when *Cancer setosus* is considered synonymous with *Grapsus penicilliger*, and thus to use the name *Pseudograpsus penicilliger* henceforth as valid for the Indonesia/Taiwan species. Kullander, voting for the proposal, said he fully appreciated that the type specimen seems useless.

### Original references

The following is the original reference to the name placed on the Official List by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

*setosus*, *Cancer*, Fabricius, 1798, *Supplementum entomologiae systematicae*, p. 339.